

## A NEW COMBINATION FOR *MONNINA* (POLYGALACEAE)

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### ABSTRACT

A new combination for a Colombian species of *Monnina* (Polygalaceae) is made: *Monnina padifolia* (Bonpl.) Freire-Fierro, based on *Hebeandra padifolia* Bonpl. The illegitimate name *Monnina phytolaccifolia* Kunth has previously been used for this species.

*Monnina*, an herbaceous to arborescent genus endemic to the New World, comprises about 150 species distributed from the southwestern USA (Blake 1924) to the southern Cone of South America (Freire-Fierro & Pastore 2008). As a result of floristic (Freire-Fierro in press) and phylogenetic studies of *Monnina* (Freire-Fierro et al. unpubl. data), it was realized that one of the Colombian species was described earlier in a different genus, *Hebeandra* Bonpl., and I publish here a new combination based on the earlier name.

*Monnina* was originally described by Ruiz and Pavón (1798). Bonpland (1808), unaware of this name, described 16 species of *Monnina* under his new genus *Hebeandra*. One of these names, *H. padifolia* Bonpl., was used to describe a Colombian species ("prope Hundam"). Bonpland (1808), while describing *H. padifolia*, says that there is also a variety "β" for material collected in Venezuela ("prope Avila").

Kunth (1823) while synonymizing *Hebeandra* under *Monnina*, created several nomenclatural problems grouped into four categories by Eriksen (1996a). One of these categories (i.e., homotypic names with different epithets) is the one that applies to the present problem. According to Eriksen (1996a), Kunth, using the same specimens studied by Bonpland, described the Colombian material as *M. phytolaccifolia* var. "α" and discussed a Venezuelan collection, which appeared to be different than the Colombian material, as *M. phytolaccifolia* var. "β".

Since the legitimate and illegitimate names of Andean *Monnina* published by Kunth had been widely used, Eriksen (1996b) proposed the conservation of the illegitimate names. However, her proposal was rejected (Brummit 1999; Nicolson 1999a, 1999b) and in publishing a treatment of Polygalaceae for Flora of Ecuador, Eriksen et al. (2000) provided the necessary replacement names for the illegitimate names used in Ecuador. An illegitimate name, *M. phytolaccifolia* for the Colombian species has been generally used until now, and I propose the following new combination to resolve this problem.

***Monnina padifolia* (Bonpl.) Freire-Fierro, comb. nov.** Basionym: *Hebeandra padifolia* Bonpl., Ges. Naturf. Freunde Berlin Mag. Neuesten Entdeck. Gesamten Naturk. 2: 42. 1808. *Monnina phytolaccifolia* (as '*phytolaccaefolia*') "var. α" Kunth in Humboldt & al., Nov. Gen. Sp. [quarto ed.] 5: 413, t. 503. 1823; *ibid.* [folio ed.] 5: 323, t. 503 (as '*Monina*'), *nom. illeg.*  
**TYPE:** Colombia. Tolima. Near Mariquita, 760 m, Jun 1801, Bonpland & Humboldt *s.n.* (lectotype designated by Eriksen 1996a: P-00679689!; isolectotypes: B-W 13045 as image!, P-00507007!, US-00109110!).



*Monnina padifolia* is a Colombian species widely distributed in secondary habitats of montane forests and it occurs between 800 and 3400 m (Freire-Fierro in press).

The Venezuelan collection ("*Monnina phytolaccifolia* var. "β"), a syntype of *M. phytolaccifolia*, that was cited in the protologue, is now recognized as *M. cladostachya* Turcz. (see Aymard & Campbell 2008). This species is only recorded from Venezuela (see Ferreyra 1957; Taylor 1985; Eriksen et al. 2000; Freire-Fierro in press).

#### ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Discussions with Laurence J. Dorr (Smithsonian Institution), Walter F. Bien (Drexel University), and James L. Luteyn greatly improved this publication. Thanks also are extended to the Academy of Natural Sciences and the Biodiversity, Earth and Environmental Sciences Department, both Drexel University, for their support on the research of *Monnina*.

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